

CLAIMS

1. A holding furnace (1) for molten baths, in particular for light molten baths, with a metering chamber (8), comprised of a sealable outlet opening, which empties into a riser (20), with which the molten bath can be metered to the application site, characterized in that the outlet opening can be actively sealed with a valve rod (11, 12).
2. The holding furnace according to claim 1, characterized in that an expansion bellows (18) is used to drive this valve rod (12) in a gastight and heat-resistant manner.
3. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that the scanning electrodes (16, 16') can be actively retracted while filling the metering chamber (8) after the melt surface (15) has been scanned.
4. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 3, characterized in that the expansion bellows (18) is used to drive the return motion of the scanning electrodes (16, 16') in a gastight and heat-resistant manner.
5. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that the molten bath is introduced into the metering chamber (8) by means of a spillway (14) in the metering chamber (8).
6. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that the melt surface (15) can be scanned before the spillway (14) is reached.

7. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the metal melt is introduced into the metering chamber (8) by means of an actively actuated or passive inlet valve (13).
8. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the metering chamber (8) with the conveying tube (21) is rotatably and tiltably mounted in the holding furnace (1).
9. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the concentric arrangement of the turning arm (30) and tilting ring (31) achieves a maximum isolation of the metering chamber (8) filled with molten bath.
10. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 9, characterized in that the molten bath can be transferred from the metering chamber (8) via the riser (20) and into a casting groove, a tube system, a casting chamber (24) or a casting mold by means of pressurization with an inert gas.
11. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 10, characterized in that the pressure progression in the metering chamber (8) can be determined by means of sensors.
12. The holding furnace according to one of claims 1 to 11, characterized in that the metering process is regulated by means of programming control system.
13. The holding furnace according to at least one of claims 1 to 12, characterized in that the

conveying tube (21) has a docking unit (23) provided with a positioning aid.

14. The holding furnace according to claim 13, characterized in that the positioning aid is designed as a spherical cap (44).
15. A metering device on a holding furnace according to claims 1 to 14, characterized in that the melt transfer path after the docking unit (23) is insulated by means of a ceramic bushing (41).
16. The metering device according to claim 15, characterized in that the insulating ceramic bushing (41) is inserted in a replaceable wearing bushing (42) in the casting chamber (24).